

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 L-01

PM-03 SP-02 DODE-00 PRS-01 /040 W

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R 241657Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8208

USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 03067

LIMDIS

USBER ALSO FOR AMBASSADOR HILLENBRAND

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOV, PFOR, WB, US, UK, UR, FR

SUBJECT: ACA BUILDING

REF: USBER 084 AND PREVIOUS

SUMMARY: UK REP RAISED SUBJECT OF ACA BUILDING AT FEB 19 TRIPARTITE MEETING. US REP STATED HE PREFERRED UK AND FRENCH VIEWS TO BE PASSED IN BERLIN AS RESPONSE TO USBER FORMAL INQUIRY OF DEC 4, 1974, BUT UK REP SAID HE UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO PRESENT BRITISH POSITION HERE. LONDON INCLINING TO AGREEMENT TO MOVE OF BASC, BUT UK EMBASSY HERE TENDS TO THINK BASC SHOULD REMAIN IN ACA BUILDING. FRENCH OPPOSE BASC MOVE FROM ACA BUILDING. END SUMMARY.

1. AT FEB 19 TRIPARTITE BONN GROUP MEETING, UK REP (CULLIMORE) INDICATED HE HAD INSTRUCTIONS FROM LONDON TO RESPOND TO USBER INQUIRY TO UKBER OF DEC 4, 1974. US REP SAID IT WOULD SEEM PREFERABLE FOR ANY TRIPARTITE DISCUSSION AT THIS STAGE TO BE HELD IN BERLIN, WHERE US INQUIRY HAD BEEN MADE. CULLIMORE SAID FCO WISHED DEAL CONFIDENTIAL

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WITH MATTER HERE SINCE IT MUST BE DISCUSSED AT SOME

POINT WITH FRG BECAUSE OF DOMESTIC POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR BONN. HE SAID FCO SAW THREE POSSIBILITIES:

A) MOVE BASC FROM ACA BUILDING AND TURN BUILDING COMPLETELY OVER TO SENAT;

B) MOVE BASC OUT, HAND OVER MOST OF BUILDING TO SENAT, BUT RETAIN SUITABLE SUITE FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE FOUR POWER DISCUSSIONS AND RETAIN SUITABLE SYMBOLS FOR MAINTENANCE OF FOUR POWER STATUS OF PART OF BUILDING, EG, FLAGS, PLAQUE; AND

C) KEEP BASC IN BUILDING, RETAIN SUITE AS IN B, BUT TURN REMAINDER OF BUILDING OVER TO SENAT. CULLIMORE SAID FCO CURRENTLY ATTRACTED TO POSSIBILITY B, BUT UK EMBASSY HERE FAVORS C.

2. FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) SAID REMOVAL OF BASC FROM ACA BUILDING SEEMED TO BE A PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS PROPOSITION. SOVIETS COULD, UPON ANY SUCH MOVE, EXPLOIT FACT OF CHANGE TO ATTACK BERLIN AIR REGIME PRACTICES AND IF DECISION SHOULD BE TAKEN BY ALLIES TO MOVE BASC, NECESSARY CONDITION WOULD BE WRITTEN STATEMENT FROM SOVIETS THAT NOTHING IS CHANGED RE AIR REGIME AND BCZ, OF WHICH ACA BUILDING IS THE CENTER. FRENCH WOULD PREFER TO KEEP BUILDING AS IS. FIRST CHOICE WOULD, THEREFORE, BE TO FILL UNUSED ROOMS OF ACA BUILDING WITH OTHER ALLIED OFFICES. ALLIES PRESENTLY IN BUILDING (BASC AND ATO) SHOULD BE KEPT THERE EVEN IF SENAT AND OTHER BERLIN OFFICES WERE LOCATED IN ITS UNUSED PORTIONS (SUITE FOR FOUR POWER USE WOULD BE RETAINED IN ANY EVENT). IF DECISION EVENTUALLY MADE TO MOVE BASC, RATIONALE SHOULD BE GIVEN AS "SAFETY" OR "TECHNICAL"

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REASONS. FRBER HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED, BOISSIEU SAID, TO RESPOND TO USBER DEC 4 LETTER ON ABOVE LINES, ALSO REQUESTING RESEARCH AND ALLIED DISCUSSION OF ORIGIN OF ACA BUILDING AS LOCATION OF BASC. FOR EXAMPLE, WAS THERE ANY EXCHANGE OF DOCUMENTS AMONG ALLIES AND INCLUDING USSR IN BASC LOCATION IN ACA BUILDING? IF SO THIS WOULD SEEM TO CALL FOR FURTHER EXCHANGE OF DOCUMENTS IF BASC WERE TO BE MOVED. UK REP INDICATED THAT FRENCH POSITION APPEARED TO CONFIRM VIEW OF UK EMBASSY THAT BASC SHOULD NOT BE MOVED. HE SAID THAT TWO POINTS MADE BY BOISSIEU IN PARTICULAR NEEDED FURTHER STUDY: A) THE ACA BUILDING AS CENTER OF THE BCZ; AND B) ESTABLISHMENT OF ACA AND BASC IN THE PRESENT BUILDING. CULLIMORE ADDED THAT GREAT CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN IN BASC MATTER SINCE WHATEVER DONE COULD HAVE SOME EFFECT ON EVENTUAL DISPOSITION OF SPANDAU PRISON.

3. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUESTED: ALL REPS AGREED TO ASK THEIR RESPECTIVE BERLIN MISSIONS TO LOOK INTO QUESTIONS RAISED BY FRENCH (WHICH WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED IN FRBER REPLY TO USBER DEC 4 LETTER). GIVEN WORDING OF PARAS 3 AND 4 OF DAIR/P (45) 71 SECOND REVISE, IT WOULD SEEM ALSO TO US WISE TO INSIST ON AGREEMENT IN WRITING FROM USSR, ALONG WITH APPROPRIATE ASSURANCES THAT NOTHING ELSE RE BASC IS CHANGED, SHOULD DECISION EVENTUALLY

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BE MADE TO MOVE THE BASC.
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